

Herman G. Honanie CHAIRMAN

Alfred Lomahquahu, Jr. VICE-CHAIRMAN

August 19, 2014

Adam Hughes, Project Engineer
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
Indian Health Services
Eastern Arizona District Office
5448 S. White Mountain Blvd., Suite 220
Lakeside, Arizona 85929

Greetings Mr. Hughes,

Enclosed is the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Programs Biological Evaluation Report #004-14 report for Indian Health Services (IHS), Office of Environmental Health & Engineering (OEHE), Eastern Arizona District for IHS Project #PH 11-E55 Addendum to Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP) on the Hopi Reservation. The surveys provide the Hopi Tribe's clearance and recommendations on Hopi Cultural Species and U.S. Threatened & Endangered Species and Species of Concern.

If you have any questions regarding my report, feel free to email me at <a href="mailto:DTalayumptewa@hopi.nsn.us">DTalayumptewa@hopi.nsn.us</a> or call me at (928) 734-3606 your earliest convenience. Thank you and have a great week.

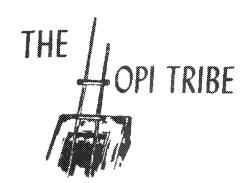
Sincerely,

Darren Talayumptewa, Director

Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program

\_\_\_\_ Date

Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program PO Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039



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Biological Evaluation Report #004-14:
Department of Health & Human Services
Indian Health Services
Addendum to BE #013-12
Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP)
IHS Project #PH 11-E55
For
Adam Hughes
Project Engineer
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
Eastern Arizona District Office

Submitted by
Darren Talayumptewa
Director
August 18, 2014

### 1.0 BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The purpose of this report is to provide an addendum to Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program's Biological Evaluation Report #BE 013-12 dated December 31, 2012 for the Indian Health Services (IHS) Project #PH 11-E55, Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP) proposal, and to address what extent the proposed addendum will have on any of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Federal listed Threatened & Endangered Species and Species of Concern listed below, and address potential impacts on Hopi Cultural Sensitive Species and Habitat.

The project will involve the Hopi Tribe, Office of Environmental Health & Engineering, Indian Health Service, and the Department of Health & Human Services Navajo County, Northeast Arizona.

This report prepared by the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystem Management Program for the Office of Environmental Health & engineering., is to ensure the proposed action will be in compliance with Section 7 of the ESA 16 U.S.C 1536 (c), and assures the proposed action does not jeopardize the continued existence of any listed threatened, endangered, or proposed species, or result in the destruction or adverse modifications of critical habitat and addresses any concern the Hopi Tribe's Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program may have with the action.

The purpose of the proposed addendum is to allow the Office of Environmental Health & Engineering, Indian Health Service and Department of Health & Human Services to include several changes to the location of the proposed facility and the location of the proposed pipelines in the Hopi Arsenic Mitigation Project (HAMP). The HAMP is a large scale project to develop safe and quality drinking water for Second and First Mesa region on Hopi Lands. The project is being developed to mitigate current unsafe and high arsenic water traces found in the water supply in First and Second Mesa area.

# 2.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION & ACTION AREA

# **Description of Proposed Action**

The addendum to the proposed project changes include; the relocation of two proposed water storage tank sites, identifying an alternate water storage tank site, reroute of proposed waterline, addition of a waterline route and includes a proposed future well site. Excavation of trenches and disturbance to ground will accompany each construction activity, as required by each scope of work.

The proposed addendum for each location will consist of the following:

Project Activity	Description of Area	Area of Disturbance	Location of Project Area
Relocation of Water	200' X 200'	0.92 Acres +/-	Above Sipaulovi and
Storage Tank Site			Mishongovi Villages
Relocation of Water	300° X 400°	2.75 Acres +/-	Near Radio Towers North of
Storage Tank Site			Hopi Cultural Center off Hopi
			BIA RT #4
Identify an Alternate	400° X 400°	3.67 Acres +/-	Along Hopi BIA RT. #43
Water Storage Tank			
Site			
Reroute of Waterline	1,760° X 100°	4.04 Acres +/-	Along Hopi BIA RT. #8
Addition of Waterline	2,510° X 50°	2.88 Acres +/-	Connect to Existing Water
Route			Main in Polacca
Addition of Future	475' X 410'	4.47 Acres +/-	Proposed Turquoise Trail Well
Water Well Site #4			#4 is proposed for Construction
			along Hopi BIA RT. #42

Total ground disturbance for the addendum construction activity is approximately 18.73 ±/- acres.

#### Action Area

The proposed action will cover lands within the villages of Second Mesa and First Mesa and within lands in the areas of Toreva, Hardrock, Upper Polacca and Five Houses Range Units (RU) in District Six, of the Hopi Reservation in Navajo County of northeast Arizona. The proposed HAMP addendum sites are located in the following:

Project Activity	Township	Range	Section	Quadrangle
Relocation of Water Storage Tank Site	28 North	18 East	26	Shungopavi/Polacea
Relocation of Water Storage Tank Site	28 North	18 East	3 & 4	Shungopavi/Polacca
Identify Alternate Water Storage Tank Site	28 North	18 East	12	Shungopavi/Polacca
Reroute of Waterline	28 & 29 North	19 East	Multiple Sections	Onions Spring/Polacea
Addition of Waterline Route	28 North	19 East	15	Polacca
Addition of Future Water Well Site #4	30 North	18 East	NE ¼ of 1	Hardrock

The Quadrangles are within the Salt River Base and Meridian of the Hopi Indian Reservation, Navajo County, Arizona.

The proposed HAMP addendum sites are located within Mixed and Sagebrush Grasslands to Pinon-Juniper Woodland habitat at varying elevation approximately 5500' to 6500' above sea level, with a precipitation of 11"-15" annually.

# 3.0 <u>LISTED SPECIES & HABITAT IN THE ACTION AREA</u>

Based on the project location, lack of potential habitat, and no observation of species within proposed project area, the Hopi Tribe's Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program has determined **no** U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Federal listed Threatened and Endangered Species for Navajo County, Arizona will be impacted.

#### 4.0 EFFECTS OF THE ACTION

The Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program has determined the proposed projects for the addendum to the HAMP, will have **no effect** on any listed Threatened and Endangered species and potential habitat, based on the project site being located within previously disturbed areas and located within residential communities.

## 5.0 Tribal Cultural Sensitive Species

The Hopi Tribe does have Culturally Sensitive Species which are a high management priority for the Tribe. The primary species are Golden eagles *Aquila chrysaetos* and Red-tail hawks *Buteo jamaicensis* that have established territories within our reservation and migrating Bald eagles *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* that are rarely observed on the reservation. These species are revered as sacred to the Hopi and the feathers are used for ceremonial and cultural purposes.

The Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program has determined the addendum #4 "Waterline Reroute along Hopi BIA Route #8", to the proposed HAMP, may impact or adversely affect the Golden eagle and Red-tail hawk breeding, occupancy and prev base habitat of the species. The Program has

determined there is an active breeding and occupation territory which may be affected by the action and therefore, may have an effect on the Tribe's Cultural Sensitive Species.

### 6.0 Tribal Recommendations and Concerns and Conclusions

The Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program recommends the project proponent limit construction activity along Hopi BIA Route #8 from June 30<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup> to allow the Golden eagles to breed, occupy and reproduce without any further disturbance from excessive construction activity. The project proponent may contact the Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program HAMP to receive further consultation on the status of the breeding territory and determine if an early start date can be provided.

If Hopi WEMP determines the affected territories are not occupied and breeding, WEMP will recommend construction to proceed as soon as possible. Determination of territories may be made by mid-April, depending on observations within territory.

All construction activity within the affected area will need to be completed and/or decease by November 15th to allow the Golden eagles to begin and continue their occupancy and breeding within the affected area.

A separate Plant Inventory report on the Threatened & Endangered Species Plants will be conducted and submitted by the Office of Range Management.

If you have any questions regarding this Biological Evaluation, please feel free to contact me at (928) 734-3606, or by e-mail at <u>DTalayumptewa@hopi.nsn.us</u>.

Darren Talayumptewa, Director

Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program

Date

Concurred by:

Cyfyton Honyumptewa, Director,

Department of Natural Resources

Date